Decline in the passenger and cargo shares of Air India and Indian Airlines

4177. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 1118 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the market share of Air India in transporting cargo to international destinations and that of Indian Airlines in transporting passengers and cargo to neighbouring countries has declined considerably in the recent periods;

(b) if so, what are the details of decline in the passenger and Cargo shares of Air India and Indian Airlines on international routes during the last three years;

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to meet international competition from other international Air services; and

(d) what steps are being taken to reduce the internal and international routes losses of Indian Airlines and Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Airbus A-320 pressed into commercial use

4178. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 3652 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th August, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the newly acquired Airbus A-320 flights have been pressed into commercial use;

(b) what is the daily passenger movements in the flights in our country; and

(c) what steps Indian Airlines are taking to augment the growing trend for flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) Average number of passengers carried daily by Indian Airlines and Vayudoot during 1991-92 were 24,344 and 836 respectively.

(c) Indian Airlines has placed an order for acquisition of 12 more Airbus A-320 aircraft for delivery during 1993 and 1994.

Cut in Operations of Indian Airlines and Air India

4179. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to effect a cut in the operation of Indian Airlines flights and to ban recruitment in the Indian Airlines Corporation and in Air India;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the extent of cut in the Indian Airlines operation;

(c) which are the Private Airlines that have now been permitted to operate their flights in the country; and

(d) whether under the relevant Act, operation of private Airlines in the country is permissible?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines had curtailed its operations to the extent of about 7.5 per cent from 1st August, 1992 due to operational constraints and seasonal drop in traffic. While there is no ban on recruitment in Air India, a temporary ban on direct recruitment in Indian Airlines has been